

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A software system for organizing and monitoring a large amount of financial information pertaining to trading activities occurring on a financial market exchange, and presenting such information on a video display screen, comprising:

5 a header display region for displaying a header corresponding to at least one user defined company which a user desires to monitor financial information pertaining thereto; and

an auction participant region for displaying said financial information in real time in an easily viewable graphical format, said financial information relating to trading activities concerning said one user defined company by a plurality of user designated auction participants.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein said financial information includes real time information presented in a graphical format on a current ask price, a current bid price, a current volume of shares available at said ask price, and a current volume of shares sought at said bid price, for each of said user selected auction participants.

3. The system of claim 2, wherein said auction participant region includes an inside market line designation for denoting a midpoint between highest one of said bid prices and a lowest one of said ask prices for said auction participants defined by said user.

4. The system of claim 1, further comprising a summary region capable of being displayed on said display concurrently with said header display region, for

displaying a summary of financial information of the user selected company.

5. The system of claim 1, further comprising a recent trades region capable of being displayed on said display concurrently with said header display region, for displaying information concerning recently executed trades of financial instruments of said user selected company.

6. The system of claim 2, further comprising at least one display region arranged as a narrow elongated display for displaying in real time price and volume information on at least one of said ask and bid prices for financial instruments of the user selected company.

7. The system of claim 1, further comprising a price and volume activity region for displaying, in real time, price and volume information flowing directly from trading activities of all of the user designated auction participants, relative to the user selected company.

8. The system of claim 1, further comprising an historical trading playback function and a user operated control panel for enabling a user to replay on the video display screen previously stored portions of auction participant activity which has occurred over a user defined time period, concerning a financial instrument of the user selected company.

9. The system of claim 8, wherein the user can fast forward said previously

stored portions of said financial information on said video display screen via said control panel.

10. The system of claim 1, further comprising a technical studies overlay display region for displaying market analysis graphs on a portion of said video display concerning the user selected stock.

11. The system of claim 1, further comprising at least one sort control for enabling said user to sort market activity of said auction participants on said video display into a predetermined pattern on said video display in accordance with a predetermined criterion.

12. A software system for organizing and monitoring a large amount of financial information pertaining to financial instrument trading activities concerning a plurality of companies occurring on a financial exchange, and presenting such information on a video display screen in an easily to view graphical format, the
5 system comprising:

a header display region for displaying headers corresponding to a plurality of user defined companies which a user desires to monitor financial information pertaining thereto, said headers being selectable by said user to allow said user to monitor and review detailed information concerning financial instrument trading

10 activities for the selected said company; and

a replay system including user actuatable controls for enabling said user to selectively re-display archived portions of said financial information on said video display.

15 13. The system of claim 12, further comprising an auction participant display region for displaying real time information in a graphical format concerning bid prices and ask prices relating to said financial instruments, and volume information for each of said bid and ask prices, of a plurality of user designated auction participants engaged in financial instrument trading activities concerning said user selected
20 company.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein said ask and bid prices and said volume information of each of said user selected auction participants is presented in an elongated subregion adjacent one another for quick visual comparison.

15. The system of claim 13, wherein said auction participant display region includes an inside market line designation for denoting a midpoint between a highest one of said bid prices and a lowest one of said ask prices for said auction participants defined by said user.

16. The system of claim 12, further comprising at least one sort control for enabling said user to sort market activity of said auction participants on said video display into a predetermined pattern on said video display in accordance with a predetermined criterion.

17. The system of claim 12, wherein said auction participant region includes indicator cells assigned to each said auction participant which change color to denote trends in trading activities of each of said auction participants.

18. The system of claim 12, further comprising a summary region capable of being displayed on said display concurrently with said header display region, for displaying a summary of said financial information pertaining to one of said user selected companies.

19. The system of claim 12, further comprising a price and volume activity region for displaying, in real time, price and volume information flowing directly from trading activities of all of the user designated auction participants, relative to the user selected company.

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21. A software system for organizing and monitoring a large amount of financial information pertaining to financial instrument trading activities concerning a plurality of companies occurring on a financial exchange, and presenting such information on a video display screen in an easily viewable and comprehensible graphical format lending itself to quick visual interpretation by a user, said system comprising:

a header display region for displaying headers corresponding to a plurality of user defined companies which a user desires to monitor financial information pertaining thereto, said headers being selectable by said user to allow said user to monitor and review detailed information concerning financial instrument trading activities for the selected said company;

an auction participant display region for displaying real time financial information concerning bid prices and ask prices, and volume information for each of said bid and ask prices, in an easy to interpret graphical format, of a plurality of user designated auction participants engaged in financial instrument trading activities concerning said user selected company; and

a sort control for allowing said user to said auction participants to organized and presented on said video display screen in accordance with a plurality of user defined criteria.

22. The system of claim 21, further comprising a replay control displayed on said video display for allowing a user to replay archived portions of said financial information of selected ones of said user defined companies on said video display.

23. The system of claim 22, wherein said auction participant region includes a plurality of indicator cells associated with each of said auction participants; and wherein said cells change color in response to activity of each of said auction participants.